



Arkansas Prepared

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Preparedness Month is nearing

National Preparedness Month is coming in September and Arkansas is getting ready for another big year. ADEM has partnered with state agencies and counties to highlight the importance of preparedness. September will be a time to review and evaluate personal and organizational preparedness efforts.

Through the Ready Arkansas program, individuals and organizations can register to be a part of this important month by visiting www.Ready.Arkansas.gov and visiting the NPM 12 section. After registration, NPM 12 members will get updates on important activities happening throughout the state.

Ready Arkansas will be launching some new prod-

ucts for the public in September. These useful products will help reinforce productive preparedness planning and give the public tools to help in a disaster.

National Preparedness Month depends on strong partnerships at every level of the state. With public, private, non-profit and government all working together, Arkansans will be better served in future disasters and emergencies.

To learn more about NPM 12, visit www.Ready.Arkansas.gov or www.Community.FEMA.gov.



ADEM employees enjoy spring luncheon



ADEM employees enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs and all the trimmings at a mid-day break in their day in May. Erin Sullivan, left photo, is all smiles going through the serving line as she attempts to decide on the trimmings to go along with her hot dog. ADEM Fire Services Coordinator Kendell Snyder supervised the cook detail.

Persons warned of floods, lightning!

Floods and lightning are both killers, of course, and you may not have known, but Arkansas led the nation in flood deaths in 2011 with 18.

Pennsylvania was second with 16. John Robinson, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service, Little Rock, frequently provides interesting tidbits on weather to ADEM and many others including the fact that 62 percent of the 113 flood victims in the country last year were males with 38 percent females.

The age range that saw the most victims was 50-59, followed by 40-49.

The month that claimed the most flood victims was August, and more than half of the deaths came while someone was driving, proving, once again, the value in following the words of caution you often heard ADEM say, "turn around, don't drown"! Regarding lightning, 62 percent of the deaths recorded in the nation from 2006-2011 occurred as you might have expected when someone was engaging in leisure activities.

More than 80 percent of the fatalities were male with most being in the 20-29 age range, followed closely by the 10-19 age group.

Also predictable, when you consider that most of the fatalities happened during outdoor activities, July was the month that claimed the highest number of victims.

Again, no surprise, Saturday was the day of the week that saw the most deaths occur, followed by Sunday.



Guatemalan group visits state EOC



Group receives warm welcome to ADEM.



Earphones allow interpreter to translate



National Guard disaster role is explained.



Guard, ADEM work well together.



A final conversation before departure.



A group picture outside the ADEM agency

‘Slower’ hurricane season forecast

One major hurricane and two tropical storms, which resulted in federal disaster declarations, serve as reminders to Arkansans that now is the time to prepare for the upcoming hurricane season.

The 2012 Hurricane Season began on June 1, and while experts are predicting a slower season than in past years, most of the predictions still call for a normal amount of activity.

The 50 year average is a little over 11 named storms, six of those becoming hurricanes and two becoming major ones – Category 3 or higher.

Reports show that Arkansas has had three storms of the hurricane activity to our south that resulted in federal declarations.

Of the three, one was an emergency declaration for a hurricane and the other two for tropical storms that were downgraded from hurricanes by the time they moved into Arkansas.

The hurricane was Katrina (2005) and the tropical storms were Gustav and Ike (2008). All three occurred in the last decade and resulted in Arkansas receiving a total of \$51.9 million in federal disaster aid under the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Public Assistance program.

The state received an emergency declaration after Katrina impacted Louisiana.

The funding was made available to reimburse Arkansas for its costs related to housing

Katrina evacuees.

Meanwhile, tropical storms Gustav and Ike brought inland flooding to Arkansas and caused major damage to its public infrastructure.

“These statistics more than demonstrate the need for all Arkansans to be prepared,” said Arkansas Department of Emergency Management Director David Maxwell and Acting FEMA Region 6 Administrator Tony Robinson.

“We say it often, but it is the best way to get a clear message out there – Get a Kit, Make a Plan and Stay Informed.”

(Story provided to ADEM from FEMA)

New Administration Division Director named

Mike Carraway is the new Administrative Division Director at ADEM.

He replaces Tina Owens who is now Deputy Director at the agency.

Mike came to ADEM after serving the past eight years at the Arkansas Department of Corrections as the Budget Administrator.

Mike is a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Monticello where he earned his Bachelor of

Science Degree in Accounting. He went on to receive his Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

He and his 12-year-old son Noah reside in Sheridan where they attend the First Assembly of God Church.

Mike is on the Board of the Sheridan Youth Baseball Association as well as serving as coach for the Little League program there..

Next year, both he and Noah will be moving up to the Babe Ruth League.

Mike says that when he is not working, he can typically be found at the ball field in the summer months, while in the fall, he will be found in the woods hunting, on the football field with Noah or at a Razorback game. Father and son also spend time with their Pomeranian, Storm.

Welcome to ADEM, Mike!



Donna Tetley is all smiles at her retirement luncheon, ending her 14-year career at ADEM.

Donna Tetley retires from ADEM's Preparedness Division

Friends and co-workers of Donna Tetley turned out for a retirement luncheon on June 30

Tetley worked 14 years for the agency in the Preparedness Division, starting her career on March 6, 1997 when the agency was still housed in Conway.

Tetley is a resident of Conway.

Suter takes part in Radio Relay Field Day

Jacob H. Suter, Telecommunications Coordinator at ADEM, participated in the 2012 American Radio Relay League Field Day on June 23.

Suter was working the Elks Lodge Radio Club 1004, out of Elks Park in North Little Rock.

FSP event has crowd

On May 3, ADEM Federal Surplus Property held its annual donee appreciation day with approximately 150 -200 customers in attendance. On this one day each year, FSP offers a special reduced rate service fee along with lunch and door prizes. Numerous dignitaries throughout the state attend, to include county Judges, mayors and numerous state agency employees as well as the Federal Surplus Property Advisory Board. This year ADEM Federal Surplus Property Donee Appreciation Day was attended by long time supporter of the program, U.S. Senator John Boozman.

Another incentive for the donees on this day is the refurbishment contest. Before and after photographs of previously acquired property are judged by staff with the winners receiving the following credits toward future donations: \$500 1st place, \$250 2nd place, \$100 3rd place.

Division Director Arthur Woods stated "this is a special day of the year for our loyal Donees and a simple way we can thank them for their business throughout the years." "Without our Donees Federal Surplus Property would not exist. ADEM /Federal Surplus property belongs to the citizens of the State and we are fortunate enough be a part of it."

Donees acquired property with an estimated government acquisition cost of approximately \$1,702,000. for only \$56,000.

Senator among guests at FSP event



Senator John Boozman (back row, center) dropped by the annual Donee Appreciation Day at the Federal Surplus Properties location on Remount Road in North Little Rock. See related article on page 6.

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